Bread and Butter Reports (2)

by
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Cover: PDR convex-sided jar from Fore Down settlement, Lullington Heath, East Sussex

BREAD AND BUTTER REPORTS

(2)

by Mike Seager Thomas

This report presents a second selection of what I (MST) call 'bread and butter' reports. These mostly consist of developer-funded pottery and research assessments and short final reports. I call them 'bread and butter reports' because writing them has generated a significant proportion of my income as a specialist, yet for the most part they are unimportant in terms of research output: either because the assemblages reported on were small and/ or unremarkable, or because the report was superseded by a more thorough final report. Most are on prehistoric pottery but included are a handful of associated reports on later pottery and prehistoric stone

I present these reports for three reasons: firstly, whether the reports are important in terms of research output or not, all provide dots on our distribution maps of the pottery (and stone) of the periods reported on; secondly, because they are examples what is or has been acceptable in a pottery assessment or short report (both to the client and the curator); thirdly because most are unlikely to see the light of day in any other form or context. To date, and to the best of my knowledge, no other reports have been prepared on the pottery and/ or stone from these sites.

The reports are arranged by region. Assemblage date is noted both in the contents list and at the top of each report.

Essex, Greater London, Surrey

Prehistoric Pottery from Spencer Road, Rainham, Essex (SNC15)

Pottery dates discussed: MIA
Report type: assessment
Report commissioned by: Pre-Construct Archaeology (London)
Date of report: April 2016

The Spencer Road, Rainham, site yielded 33 prehistoric and possible prehistoric sherds. Seven fabrics are distinguishable within the assemblage (Tab. 1). Most probably they are of Middle Iron Age date. Burnished sherds from (40) resemble Middle Iron Age saucepan pottery, sherds from (33) and (73), Middle Iron Age S-shaped Wealden jar, and sherds from (28), Middle Iron Age shouldered pottery, such as that from Little Waltham (and other Thames Valley sites). Two fabrics, however, cannot be tied down to a particular prehistoric date (U and FMFC), three (FF, FFQ and FMFSQ) could be accommodated within Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age post Deverel-Rimbury pottery traditions, and both the fabric and, in so far as it can be reconstructed, the form of the 'Wealden' jar sherds can just about be accommodated within local Romano-British traditions. In the absence of other dating evidence, therefore, the chronological credentials of the features that yielded them should be treated with caution, while in terms of our understanding of local and regional pottery traditions, neither the assemblage as a whole nor the individual sherds comprising it are of much interpretative use.

Table 1

Pottery from North Waltham: fabric, quantification, other diagnostics/ comments, likely date

Context	Number of sherds	Fabric	Other diagnostics; comments	Likely date
11	1	U	burnt	ND
28	26	FMFSQ	thick sherds, pronounced shoulder, rounded rim	MIA
38	1	FQ1	burnished	MIA or RB
38	1	FF	none	too small to date
40	2	FFQ	burnished. Could be a saucepan pot	MIA
44	1	FMFC	none	ND
73	1	FQ2	burnished; rounded, out-turned rim, *possibly* belonging to a Wealden jar	MIA or RB
Total probable prehistoric 33				
Key U = untempered; FMFSQ = decalcified shelly fabric with fine to medium flint and sparse–moderate quartz sand; FQ = fine (quartz) sandy fabric; FF = fine flint-tempered fabric; FFQ = fine sandy fine flint-tempered fabric; FMFC = fine to medium flint-tempered with (superficially) round voids, from grass or chaff.				

Prehistoric Pottery from Cane Hill Hospital, Brighton Road, Coulsdon (CNE14)

Pottery dates discussed: LBA, LBA/EIA, MIA, LIA or LIA/E-RB
Report type: assessment
Report commissioned by: Pre-Construct Archaeology (London)
Date of report: December 2015

Summary

The prehistoric pottery assemblage from Brighton road, Coulsdon, comprises 648 sherds (and in excess of 200 tiny fragments) weighing *c*. 5½ kilograms (Tab. 2). Up to six pottery traditions/ styles and three broad period groups are represented in it: post Deverel-Rimbury, here dated Late Bronze Age (LBA) and possibly Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age (LBA/EIA), Saucepan, so-called Wealden pottery and an unnamed group dated Middle Iron Age (MIA), and LPRIA, in this case dated Late Iron Age (LIA) *or* Late Iron Age/ Early Roman (LIA/ERB). The bulk of the assemblage and the individual context groups are MIA. The LBA and LBA/EIA pottery consists of two large context assemblages, and a small number of sherds in later groups. The LPRIA group consists of a few sherds only. A handful of sherds, though certainly dated to the first millennium BC, cannot be closely dated within the millennium owing to an absence amongst them of chronologically diagnostic feature sherds and the use of similar fabrics at different periods within the millennium.

The interest and importance of the assemblage is three-fold. First is the occurrence side by side of range of pottery traditions/ styles. This should assist us in characterizing and distinguishing these locally. Second is the range of forms and traditions/ styles within each period group, which should assist us in characterizing and distinguishing *these* locally. Of particular note here is the range of fabrics, forms, sizes associated with the MIA group, a combination, which though not uncommon, has not always been recognized. Finally of interest are the traditions' regional, as opposed to on-site, relationships. Again of particular interest is the MIA group, which has close analogues from north of the Thames (the Lee Valley and Ilford) and to the west (Leatherhead and West Clandon), and much further (in Sussex) south but lacks a number of characteristic Thames Valley MIA types, and adds to evidence for a distinct regional sub-group focused on East London and north-central Surrey. This contrasts with the LBA and LBA/EIA pottery, which belongs to a much more wide ranging tradition. The exact importance of these things in the Brighton Road assemblage of course will only be revealed on closer study, particularly of its context relationships.

Late Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age pottery

The post Deverel-Rimbury group comprises a characteristic and widely paralleled suite of fine to coarse flint-tempered fabrics (FF, FMF, MCF, CF and FMFQ). Characteristic post Deverel-Rimbury vessel types include (from context 914) a fine ware shouldered jar with an out-turned neck (pot A), a thin-bodied, fingered, weakly shouldered jar (pot B), an open fine ware bowl with a rounded carination *c*. 2 cm below the rim (pot C), and (from context 827, which yielded a few MIA sherds) a possible tripartite bowl (pot E). The assemblage from (914) probably belongs to the Late Bronze Age, somewhere around 900–850 cal BC, the evidence for this being the fabric suite and the lack of decoration, which are typical of early ('plain ware') and middle

('developed') post Deverel-Rimbury traditions (e.g. Runnymede), and the fine ware bowl, which though almost certainly contemporary with the rest of the context group, is more typical of middle and possibly later traditions (e.g. Petter's Sports Field). An oddity in this group is a base with a cross burnished onto its underside (pot D). The assemblage from (827) *could* be slightly later. The evidence for this is the presence in it of a sandier flint-tempered fabric (FMFQ), sometimes but not exclusively associated with later post Deverel-Rimbury groups within the region, and the tripartite bowl, which though not completely reconstructable, recalls tripartite vessels associated with the so-called Park Brow/ Cæsar's Camp (e.g. St. George's Hill, Weybridge), which includes material dateable both to the LBA/EIA and the EIA.

Middle Iron Age pottery

The Middle Iron Age group is dominated by shell-tempered wares (S) and incorporates small quantities of fine sandy (Q and RFQ), calcite tempered (C) and chalk tempered wares (CH). A coarser sandy ware (RCQ) that occurred in Middle Iron Age form on site but only once in association with the rest of the suite might be of a slightly different, Middle Iron Age date. These fabrics and in some cases this suite characterizes the assemblages from a number of sites in the region (e.g. Ashtead, Hascombe, Leatherhead, Lee Valley, West Clandon etc.). Fabrics Q, RCQ and S are widely distributed in the southeast; fabric C appears to be restricted to London, Surrey and Sussex (other Sussex fabrics, occasionally present in Surrey MIA assemblages, were not present on the Brighton Road site). Typologically diagnostic Middle Iron Age types include (from context 4010) a foot-ring base, most likely from a Wealden S-shaped jar (pot F), (from context 4013) a burnished saucepan pot with an out-turned rim and a coarse upright jar of saucepan type with a squared rim (pots G and H), (from context 4015) a coarse round shouldered jar with an upright neck and squared rim (pot I), and (from context 5044) another coarse jar of saucepan type, in this case with an internally beveled rim (pot J). Typically the Wealden jar is in fabric Q, the burnished saucepan pot in fabric C, the round-shouldered jar in fabric RCQ and the two coarse jars of saucepan type in fabric S. Also in fabric S are sherds from a very large jar with an externally expanded rim (pot K). This latter is not a type that has been widely recognized but it does have approximate parallels from Ilford and the Lee Valley, north of the Thames.

Late Iron Age pottery and undated pottery

The small LPRIA group is represented by sherds from two closed mouth jars in a fabric similar to, but possibly slightly finer than, MIA fabric S (FS). The rim of one of these (from context 750) is beaded internally and externally (pot L), that of the other externally only (pot M). Owing to the small size of this group, its exact parameters on site are uncertain, but it is *possible* that it encompasses a variant of FMFQ and two other fabrics, sandy fine flint-tempered (FFCQ) and sandy shell tempered (SQ), with which the two feature sherds were associated spatially, although in no place on site do these occur in LIA form. The group could be LIA or LIA/ERB.

Further work

Any further work would focus on characterizing, contextualizing and illustrating the MIA assemblage, which belongs to a recognizable but poorly known group.

Potentially this would add significantly to our understanding of pottery of this date within the region. The early pottery is of a type well known within the region and requires less attention; while the later pottery, is too insubstantial to be of much value, though it would perhaps yield more data considered in the wider context of the site's Romano-British pottery.

Table 2

Prehistoric pottery from Coulsdon: quantification, fabrics, diagnostics and suggested dating

Context	No of sherds	Weight in grams	Fabric(s)	Diagnostics	Suggested date
750	2	10	FS	pot L	LIA/ERB
754	1	5	FS		LIA/ERB
756			FMF, FS	pot M	LBA, LIA/ERB
762	1	4	RB quartz		RB
762	6	10	FMF, FMFQ		LBA, LBA/EIA
767	2	8	FMFQ		LBA/EIA
773	2	12	FF, FFCQ		LBA, LBA/EIA or LIA
776	2	6	MF		LBA or LBA/EIA
827	74	305	FMF, MCF, RFQ, Q, C, FMFQ	pot E	LBA/EIA, MIA
841	6	70	FMF, S, SQ		LBA, MIA, LBA/EIA or LIA
845		100	FMF, MF, S	base in FMF with horizontal burnished exterior groove	LBA/EIA, MIA
913	4	5	S		MIA
914	213	1850	FF, FMF, MCF, CF	pots A–D; pinched base in CF	LBA
4005	>15	600	S	pot K	MIA
4006	20	165	FMF, S, Q, U	pot K; unidentified clay object	MIA
4010	2	30	Q	pot F	MIA, RB
4011	7	30	FMFQ, S, RCQ, Q, RB quartz		LBA/EIA, MIA, RB
4012	7	160	S	pot K	MIA
4013	28	360	FMF, C, CH, S, RFQ	PDR-type out-turned rim in FMF; pots G and H	LBA, MIA
4015	326	1650	FMF, MF, RCQ	pot I (many sherds from single vessel)	LBA, MIA
5017	1	4	FMFQ		LBA/EIA
5035	16	25	Q, RB quartz		ND, RB
5044	7	50	S, RFQ, RB quartz	pot J	MIA, RB
5045	1	4	S		MIA
5066	1	4	S		MIA
	416	5452			

Key: S and FS = shelly; FMF = fine to medium flint-tempered; FMFQ = sandy fine to medium flint-tempered; FF = fine flint-tempered; FFCQ = sandy flint tempered; MF = medium flint-tempered; MCF = medium to coarse flint-tempered; RFQ, Q and RCQ = sandy; C = calcite tempered; CH = chalk inclusions; U = untempered

Prehistoric Pottery from Ewell (SCHS15 and SRRE15)

Pottery dates discussed: EBA, LBA/EIA, MIA, LIA/E-RB
Report type: assessment
Report commissioned by: Pre-Construct Archaeology (London)
Date of report: November 2015

Summary

The prehistoric assemblage from Ewell (SCHS15 and SRRE15) comprises 67 sherds weighing just under 1 kilogram (Tab. 3). Four period groups are represented: Early Bronze Age (one sherd only), later Bronze Age (2 sherds), Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age (which as usual, dominates the assemblage), Middle Iron Age (33 sherds from three contexts), and Late Iron Age/Early-Romano British (2 sherds). Three further sherds are of uncertain but possible prehistoric date. Each of these groups are discussed in detail below. Prehistoric sherds were found in association with early Romano-British, (?Early–Middle) Saxon and High medieval pottery.

Dated sherds and groups

The Early Bronze Age is represented by a single sherd (from SRRE15 context 52) in a soft sandy grog-tempered fabric, deeply oxidized on the exterior and unoxidized on the interior. Fabrics of this sort are recurrent throughout southern Britain where they are associated with Food Vessels, Biconical Urns and Collared Urns. It is impossible to infer to which of these traditions the present sherd belongs but its dating to this period is certain.

Two friable flint and grog-tempered sherds (from SRRE15 contexts 82 and 289) probably belong to the beginning of the Late Bronze Age. These two sherds stand out from the site's Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age (post Deverel-Rimbury) pottery (see below) because of their grog-tempering and their poor firing. To the south (in Sussex), grog and flint tempering tends to be associated with transitional Middle Bronze Age/ Late Bronze Age pottery; to the east (in south Essex and northwest Kent) with Middle Bronze Age (Deverel-Rimbury) pottery. Locally, the exact chronological attribution of such fabrics have not been established with certainty. In the absence unambiguous Middle Bronze Age pottery and the presence of unambiguous Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age pottery on site, the later date is preferred for them here.

The Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age (post Deverel-Rimbury assemblage) comprises a characteristic suite of mostly fine to medium to coarse flint-tempered fabrics. Typically for the region many of these also incorporate significant fractions of quartz sand. In the absence of feature sherds it impossible to distinguish Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery locally with certainty, but the small range of mostly flint-tempered fabrics would be more consistent with a Late Bronze Age than an Early Iron Age date (cf. Raynes Park). A single possible exception comes from context 419, which is hard, untempered or sandy, and highly burnished and recalls pottery from the Early Iron Age assemblage from nearby Hawk's Hill, Leatherhead.[1]

Middle Iron Age pottery comes from SCHS15 context 2 and SCHS15 contexts 56 and 419, both of which also yielded later pottery. The Middle Iron

[1] Prof. Sue Hamilton of UCL Institute of Archaeology agrees. Other, red-slipped PDR-like sherds from this context are wheel-thrown and cannot be prehistoric.

Age assemblage comprises two fabrics, both typical of the period regionally: shelly and dense sandy (cf. Hawk's Hill and West Clandon). These occur, respectively, in saucepan pot (context 419) and S-shaped jar form (context 56). A third fabric, FMFQ, though certainly of Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age date on site, may, on analogy with similar fabrics from a number of Surrey and Greater London sites, have reoccurred or survived into this later period.

The importance of the assemblage

Owing to its small size, the lack of feature sherds within it and — in some contexts — its mixing, the present assemblage adds little to our understanding of prehistoric pottery locally; though it is notable that observations about it are consistent with those on similarly dated assemblages from elsewhere within the region. The site conforms to a set of well-established traditions locally. More important, however, is the evidence for pottery using activity through, or again and again over a long period of prehistory; and the representation within this of both common (e.g. earlier PDR) and less common pottery traditions (e.g. EBA, late PDR and saucepan pottery), which has significant implications for our understanding of the site(s). These are discussed elsewhere in the site report.

Roman Pottery from Ewell (SRRE15 and SRRE15)

The Roman pottery assemblage comprises 63 sherds weighing 750 grams (Tab. 3). All but two of these were recovered from SRRE15's context 419 in which they were associated with both Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and probable Early Iron Age post Deverel-Rimbury pottery, and Middle Iron Age saucepan pottery. The other two come from SCHS15's test pit 4 and SRRE15's context 82. The Roman pottery from 419 consists of sherds from eight or nine different vessels. Where dateable, all of these belong to the early Roman period (late 1st–early 2nd century). These include, in particular, two dark grey sandy ware cordoned jars, closely paralleled — both in terms of their form and fabric — by jars produced by the earlier Alice Holt pottery industry (Lyne & Jefferies types 1.20 and 1.24) and in assemblages from other Surrey Early Roman sites (e.g. Anstiebury and Reigate Road, Ewell); and, in a fine sandy fabric, a small shouldered jar with a grooved shoulder angle, exactly paralleled in early groups from the two above mentioned early Roman sites, and which from London would be considered Trajanic at the latest. Sherds from two red colour coated vessels, one of uncertain form, the other from a carinated bowl, are of uncertain but possibly earlier date (see note 1). The Roman sherds from SCHS15's test pit 4 and SRRE15's context 82, both of which incorporated grog, are not closely dateable. 419 yielded also yielded a single sherd in a grog-tempered fabric. Both the sherd from the test pit and the grog tempered sherd from 419 resemble Belgic grog tempered and Sussex (Eastern Atrebatic) grog tempered fabrics and could be as early as Late Iron Age, though the lack of other Late Iron Age sherds from the site renders this unlikely, but the fabric(s) and since identical fabric types continued in use throughout the Roman period, the later seems the more likely attribution. The sherd from 82 is certainly Roman.

Table 3

Prehistoric and Roman pottery: quantification, fabrics, diagnostics and suggested dating

Site code	Area	Context	No of sherds	Fabrics	Other diagnostics	Spot date
SCHS15	-	2	1	S	none	MIA
SCHS15	TP1	6	1	FF	none; too small to date	ND
SCHS15	TP6	10	1	FMFQ	angular shoulder or base	LBA/EIA or MIA
SCHS15		79	1	FMF	flaky	LBA/EIA
SCHS15		176	1	FMF	none	LBA/EIA
SCHS15		210	1	MF	none	LBA/EIA
SCHS15		244	1	FMFQ	burnished	LBA/EIA or MIA
SCHS15		265	2	F	none; too small to date	ND
SCHS15	A10		1	MF	PDR-type slightly expanded, squared rim	LBA
SCHS15	A10		1	QF	hard, oxidized	medieval
SCHS15	D1		1	FMFQ	burnished	LBA/EIA or MIA
SCHS15	E6		1	MF	PDR fingertip impressed shoulder	LBA/EIA
SCHS15	F14		1	MCF	fingered	LBA/EIA
SCHS15	TP4 (0.4–0.5m)		1	MF	none	LBA/EIA
SCHS15	TP4 (0.4–0.5m)		1	GQ1	none	LIA/RB
SCHS15	TP4 (1–1.1m)		1	FMFQ	none	LBA/EIA
SCHS15	TP4 (1.1–1.2m)		1	MF	none	LBA/EIA
SRRE15		3	1	MCF	none	LBA/EIA
SRRE15		16	1	MF	single sherd broken into 2	LBA/EIA
SRRE15		52	1	GQ2	soft; deeply oxidized exterior	EBA
SRRE15		56	1	VCFQ	fingered (?) base sherd	LBA/EIA
SRRE15		56	1	chaff	thick	(?)SAX (*not* prehistoric)
SRRE15		56	1	Q3	none	medieval
SRRE15		56	2	Q2	same fabric as small base in 419	(?)MIA
SRRE15		56	2	Q1	dense quartz — plain out-turned rim of probable S-shaped jar	MIA
SRRE15		56	1	Q4	rounded base	(?)SAX (*not* prehistoric)
SRRE15		82	1	MFG	friable	later BA
SRRE15		82	1	GQ3	none	RB
SRRE15		207	1	MCF	none	LBA/EIA
SRRE15		215	1	QC	fingertip impressed	unknown
SRRE15		215	1	GQ4	fingered	unknown
SRRE15	-	250	1	MCF	none	LBA/EIA

Site code	Area	Context	No of sherds	Fabrics	Other diagnostics	Spot date
SRRE15	-	282	1	FMFQ	none	LBA/EIA
SRRE15	-	283	3	FMF	none	LBA/EIA
SRRE15	-	286	3	FMF & MF	none	LBA/EIA
SRRE15	-	289 (spit 1)	1	FMF	none	LBA/EIA
SRRE15	-	289 (spit 1)	1	MFG	flaky	later BA
SRRE15	-	310	1	FMF	none	LBA/EIA
SRRE15	-	419	27	S	saucepan pot decorated with horizontal burnished furrows	MIA
SRRE15	-	419	1	Q2	small flat base	(?)MIA
SRRE15	-	419	1	MF	none	LBA/EIA
SRRE15	-	419	1	U	burnished; out-turned rim; handmade	(?)EIA
SRRE15	-	419	61	RB sandy, FMIC, G etc.	unambiguous ERB forms	ERB, RB

Key: S = shell tempered (MIA); FF = fine flint tempered (LBA); FMFQ = fine to medium flint tempered with quartz sand (LBA and — possibly — MIA); FMF = fine to medium flint tempered (LBA); F = flint tempered (sherd too small to quantify flint fraction); QF = hard sandy ware with occasional flint inclusions (High medieval); MCF = medium to coarse flint tempered; GQ1 = grog tempered with medium quartz sand (similar to some 'Belgic' grog tempered fabrics) (LIA); GQ2 = soft fine sandy grog tempered fabric of EBA type; VCFQ = very coarse flint tempered with quartz sand; chaff = chaff tempered (Saxon); Q3 = coarse sandy fabric, possibly multi gritted (medieval); Q2 soft poorly sorted sandy fabric (possibly MIA; similar to some Saxon fabrics); Q1 = dense fine sandy fabric (MIA); Q4 hard fabric with sparse, coarse quartz sand and burnt out/ decalcified chaff or shell temper (Saxon); MFG = medium flint and grog tempered (later Bronze Age); QC = sandy fabric with chalk inclusions (possibly MIA); GQ4 = sandy grog-tempered fabric of unknown date; U = hard untempered or possibly slightly groggy sandy fabric (probably EIA); FMIC = Cotton's/MOL micaceous fine sandy fabric; G = grog tempered (probably Sussex grog tempered ware — AKA East Sussex Ware)

Prehistoric Pottery from Tobacco Dock, Shadwell (TBF10)

Pottery dates discussed: LBA
Report type: assessment
Report commissioned by: Pre-Construct Archaeology (London)
Date of report: April 2016

Excavations at Tobacco Dock, Shadwell, yielded seven sherds of prehistoric pottery (Tab. 4). Four flint-tempered fabric types were distinguishable. These range from fine to medium flint-tempered to coarse flint-tempered. Locally the coarsest of these, CF, could belong to a range of prehistoric dates from the Neolithic to the Late Bronze Age but the fabric suite and the assemblage *as a whole* is typical of the early post Deverel-Rimbury pottery tradition locally, datable to around 1000 cal BC (importantly for this diagnosis is a lack of a significant quartz sand fraction in the clay matrix). This view is supported by the absence from the assemblage of sherds of more than c. 9mm thick. The assemblage as a whole is heavily weathered/ abraded and there is no reason to assume that *any* of it is in a primary position. For this reason, it has no research potential.

Table 4

Pottery from Tobacco Dock, Shadwell. Non-prehistoric sherd in red

Context	Number of sherds	Fabric	Other diagnostics	Likely date
1850	1	sparse CF	none	LBA
1905	1	sparse FMF	thin	LBA
1913	1	sparse MCF	thin	LBA
1960	1	CQ	very hard	Not prehistoric; probably MED
1990	2	MCF, MF	thin	LBA
2115	2	sparse FMF, FMF	thin	LBA
Total prehistoric	7			

Key
CF = coarse flint tempered; FMF = fine to medium flint tempered; MCF = medium to coarse flint tempered; CQ = moderate coarse rounded quartz inclusions; MF = medium flint tempered. M/LBA = Middle and Late Bronze Age fabric type; LBA = Late Bronze Age fabric type

Hampshire

Prehistoric Pottery from Boorley Green, Botley, Hants — Dating and Research Assessment (BGBH 15)

Pottery dates discussed: EBA, MBA, LBA
Report type: assessment
Report commissioned by: Pre-Construct Archaeology (West)
Date of report: July 2016

Summary

The prehistoric pottery assemblage form Boorley Green comprises 738 sherds weighing approximately 4.85 kilograms (Tab. 5). Three pottery traditions and three or four period groups are represented within it: Early Bronze Age Collared Urn, Biconical Urn *or* food vessel, Middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury, and Late Bronze Age post Deverel-Rimbury. One vessel has both Deverel-Rimbury and post Deverel-Rimbury traits and should probably be dated to the very end of the Middle Bronze Age. Except as a dot on our distribution maps of the period, the Early Bronze Age pottery adds nothing to our knowledge of the period. The later assemblage adds importantly to our knowledge of Middle Bronze Age pottery typology and Middle and Late Bronze Age funerary traditions locally, and helps us refine the likely date of the Boorley Green site.

Early Bronze Age

The Early Bronze Age is represented on site by a single sherd from Trench 7. It is in a grog-tempered fabric typical of pottery belonging to this period across the region. Its former role on site is unknown but the known associations of similar grog-tempered pottery within the region are, where interpretable, exclusively funerary, and this can be assumed to have been its role at Boorley Green. This view is supported by the identification of a Middle/ Late Bronze Age cremation cemetery approximately hundred metres from its findspot.[2]

Middle Bronze Age/ Deverel-Rimbury

The Deverel-Rimbury pottery assemblage comprises sherds from six or seven distinguishable pots, the northernmost four of line of five cinerary urns (109, 116, 119 and 121), fragments of two more from inside the northernmost of these (110a and 110b), and a single probable Deverel-Rimbury sherd from Trench 2.[3]

Urns 109 and 116 consist of coarse flint-tempered straight to slightly convex sided jars, the former with an uncertain number of small bosses approximately 4cm below the rim. The sherds from these two urns include many rim sherds and few base sherds suggesting that both were inverted in the ground, while the exterior surfaces of 116 below the rim are very heavily oxidized suggesting that it had been burnt. The sherds from inside urn 109 come from a smaller, thin-bodied bossed jar, in a finer, but still coarse flint-tempered fabric (110a), and a fine flint-tempered pot of unknown form (110b). Importantly the sherds comprising these pots represent a small part only of each pot and all have been burned. Urns 109 and 116 and pot 110a are of generic (or pan-regional) Deverel-Rimbury type.

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[2] I have assumed 7103 is Trench 7
[3] I have assumed 2104 is Trench 2

Urn 121 comprises a burnished, fine to medium flint-tempered 'globular' jar. A large number of base sherds and very few rim sherds suggest that this vessel was placed upright in the ground. Its rim was slightly out-turned. It appears to have had a cordon above the widest part of the vessel, in places decorated on, above and below with tool drawn, cross-hatched triangles, two and probably more lug handles, the holes through which were orientated vertically, and — a very unusual feature for the Deverel-Rimbury tradition — a slightly pedestalled base. Urn 121, despite its unusual base, is of Wessex Deverel-Rimbury type.

Finally, urn 119 was located between Deverel-Rimbury urn 121 and post Deverel-Rimbury urn 105. Owing to its extreme fragmentation, it is not possible to reconstruct it exactly but it appears to have been straight-sided with a rounded, slightly out-turned rim. It has an applied cordon with a triangular section, the upper angle of which is fingertip impressed. Like urn 121 it is burnished but it is in a much coarser flint tempered fabric. A large number of rim sherds and no base sherds suggest that it was inverted in the ground. The form of urn 119 is Deverel-Rimbury, the concavity formed at the top of the vessel by the out-turning of its rim, recalling some Wessex types, but the combination of its fabric and finish and also the fingertip impressions on the top of the angle formed by the cordon is more characteristic of the post Deverel-Rimbury tradition. Given this and its position between Deverel-Rimbury urn 121 and post Deverel-Rimbury urn 105, it is suggested that it belongs to the end of the former tradition.

Late Bronze Age/ post Deverel-Rimbury

The Late Bronze Age post Deverel-Rimbury tradition is represented on site by urn 105, the southernmost of the line of cinerary urns, and three possible post Deverel-Rimbury sherds from Trench 4. Again owing to its fragmentation urn 105 is difficult to reconstruct with certainty but it most likely comprised a shouldered jar, of which sherds from a flared neck with a flat-topped, externally expanded rim survive. It is in a medium to coarse flint-tempered fabric. The survival of many rim sherds and no base sherds suggest that it too was inverted in the ground.[4]

Discussion

The identification of a pedestalled base (urn 121) and of the fabric/ finish combination of urn 119 as Deverel-Rimbury are important because both of these features in isolation would very likely have been considered diagnostic of different pottery traditions and dates. Thus our knowledge of the minutiae of Wessex prehistoric pottery traditions is usefully augmented by a study of the Boorley Green assemblage.

The most important inferences that can be drawn from the assemblage relate to Bronze Age funerary rites as practiced on site. The principal observations relate to the lay out of the urns and the burning of pots 110a and 110b and urn 116. Urns were added to the line of cremations over time, first Deverel-Rimbury (urns 109, 116 and 121), then Deverel-Rimbury/ post Deverel-Rimbury (urn 119) and finally post Deverel-Rimbury (urn 105). This contrasts with, for example, the pattern identified in the recently analyzed assemblage from Badminston Farm, Fawley, where later cremations appear to have been slotted in-between earlier ones (Seager Thomas 2016). Secondly,

[4] I have assumed 7105 is Trench 4

the observation that the sherds comprising pots 110a and 110b, recovered from inside unburnt urn 109, are both burnt and only very incompletely representative of the pots from which they derive is difficult to understand except as part of the funerary rite. How else could they have got there? Perhaps, therefore, they contained offerings burnt along with the deceased and were swept up with his or her cremated remains or relate to some kind of fragmentation ritual of the sort now widely championed for the British Bronze Age. Lastly, the exterior oxidization of urn 116 may indicate the use of pottery 'seconds' for burial or, alternatively, the deliberate burning of the pot may itself be part of the burial ritual, both of which have been suggested for Deverel-Rimbury elsewhere (e.g. Simons Ground).

Also of interest are the assemblage's implications for the date of the site. Elsewhere the writer has explained the different proportions of Wessex and pan-regional type Deverel-Rimbury coarse wares on proximate Hampshire cemetery sites in terms of date, suggesting that sites with high proportions of Wessex types are early (e.g. Badminston Farm) and sites with low proportions (e.g. Twyford Down) late. This rationale applied to the Boorley Green assemblage would make Boorley Green a late one.

Further work

The importance of the Boorley Green assemblage lies in its typology, its funerary context and dating. Further useful information relating to the site's pottery typology might be generated by graphically reconstructing the cinerary urns, the relationship of whose parts currently exists only in the mind of the specialist. Graphic reconstruction and more detailed description would also facilitate comparison with assemblages from other sites, which would enable us to place it is a clearer regional context. Important too is the urns' local context. For example, the specialist's inferences about urn orientation and the burning of urn 116 might be usefully informed by bringing together his analysis and the on site context record. Finally, the question of the precise date of the Deverel-Rimbury pottery within the Middle Bronze Age — and therefore of the Boorley Green assemblage — could be usefully addressed by a more detailed analysis of the proportions of Wessex and pan-regional Deverel-Rimbury pottery on other Wessex sites.

Table 5

Bronze Age (and other) pottery from Boorley Green, Trench 1/ Trench 1 extension, and Bronze Age pottery from the rest of the site: fabric, quantification, other diagnostics, pottery tradition, likely date with comments

Context	SF no	Fabric	No of sherds	Weight in grams	Other diagnostics	Pottery tradition	Likely date	Comments
105 (cremation 112)		MCF2	62	225	Flared neck with flat topped externally expanded rim	PDR	LBA	Several rim sherds, one base sherd — probably inverted
109 (cremation 111)	2	VCF	80	680	Straight–convex sided; rounded rim; small bosses c. 4cm below rim	DR	MBA	Small. Several rim sherds, no base sherds — probably inverted

110 (cremation 111)		MF	23	75	5 small bosses	DR	MBA	Pot 110a. Small, thin bodied. Burnt
		FF	17	65	None	DR	MBA	Pot 110b. Burnt
		Q	1	2	None	RB grey ware	RB	none
116 (cremation 113)	3	CF	92	1075	Probably convex sided, with slightly inturned rounded–flat topped rim	DR	MBA	Several rim sherds, 3 base sherds (labeled 'top of pot' — probably inverted. Body sherds heavily oxidized on the outside — possibly burnt
119 (cremation 114)	4	MCF1	138	715	Rounded, slightly out-turned rim; straight-sided with horizontal, obtuse triangular sectioned cordon, fingertip impressed on its upper surface; burnished	DR	M/LBA	Several rim sherds, no base sherds — probably inverted
121 (cremation 124)	5	FMF	321	2000	Out-turned rim; concave neck; cordon, vertical lugs; pedestal base; burnished with partial cross-hatched triangle decoration over, above and below cordon	DR	MBA	Many base sherds, few rim sherds — probably upright
2104		FMF	1	2	possible wide squared rim	DR or PDR	M/LBA	MBA date preferred
4105		FMF	3	2	None	?PDR	?LBA	Too small to date with confidence
7103		G	1	8	None	Collared/ Biconical Urn	EBA	None

Key to abbreviations used (in order of appearance in Appx).
Pottery fabrics: MCF = medium to coarse flint temper; VCF = very coarse flint temper; MF = medium flint temper; FF = fine flint temper; Q = quartz sand; CF = coarse flint-temper; FMF = fine to medium flint temper; G = grog temper. Pottery traditions: PDR = post Deverel-Rimbury (Late Bronze Age); DR = Deverel-Rimbury (Middle Bronze Age); RB = Romano-British. Dates: LBA = Late Bronze Age; MBA = Middle Bronze Age; RB = Romano-British; M/ LBA = Middle to Late Bronze Age; EBA = Early Bronze Age.

Assessment of the Prehistoric Pottery from North Waltham, Hants (NWBH17)

Pottery dates discussed: EBA, MBA, LBA
Report type: assessment
Report commissioned by: Pre-Construct Archaeology (West)
Date of report: December 2017

Description

The pottery assemblage from North Waltham comprises 216 sherds weighing 2.785 kgs (Tab. 6). These are in a coarsely flint tempered fabric, and derive from the base and the lower and — probably — the upper sides of a thick-bodied pot with a flat, sharply carinated base, splayed sides and a slightly raised or applied, fingertip impressed cordon, below which are traces of a carefully drilled post-firing perforation. The pot was found upright in the ground and had been truncated about 6cm above its base. Its base had a diameter of about 20cm, at the point it was truncated it had a diameter of 30–33cm, and at the cordon a diameter of about 35cm. The fingertip impressed sherds do not join any of the sherds from the lower body and had presumably fallen into it from higher up and do not therefore have any implications in terms of the pot's original height, which at best can only be inferred from the depth of the base below the modern ground surface (?40cm). The sherds are slightly weathered but unabraded and there is no evidence of burning after firing. Both fabric and pot form are characteristic, locally and further afield, of the Deverel-Rimbury pottery tradition, currently dated to Middle Bronze Age (*c*. 1500BC).

Interpretative context

Because they do not form part of a recognizable domestic suite, and because sometimes they contain cremated human remains, isolated buried urns of this type tend to be interpreted as cinerary urns, while post-firing perforations (which often straddle breaks) are viewed as evidence of repair, or a change in the use for which the pot was originally intended, either of which would suggest that this urn had been used use for something else prior to its use as a cinerary urn — *if* that is what it is. Alternatively, the repair may indicate the use of a 'second', rather than a perfect pot. If either of the first two interpretations is correct, the North Waltham Urn would conform exactly to current perspectives on Middle Bronze Age funerary deposition within the Deverel-Rimbury cultural area. If the alternative is correct, it would be at variance with them, and reflect perhaps the status of, or a previously unacknowledged attitude to inurnment. The final interpretation of the urn, however, must rest upon the results of the analysis of its contents, whether or not it contained cremated human bone, as *by themselves*, nothing about the pot or its position proves or refutes any of these with certainty. It does prove, however, is that there was Bronze Age pottery using activity on the site and this is important both in terms of our understanding of the archaeology of, and the future investigative strategies for the area.

Further work

Owing to its small size, the isolation of its find spot and the generic nature

of the pottery comprising it, the assemblage is unlikely to yield more data of interpretive use, and therefore no further work on it is recommended.

Table 8

Bronze Age pottery from North Waltham: fabric, quantification, other diagnostics, pottery tradition, likely date

Context/ bags	Qty	Weight in kg	Fabric	Other diagnostic features	Pottery tradition	Date
1904	31	0.285	CF	thick	DR	MBA
4102	36	0.11	CF	thick	DR	MBA
4102	97	1.19	CF	thick; fingertip-impressed cordon (2 joining sherds); flat, obtusely angled base sherds	DR	MBA
4102	52	1.2	CF	thick; flat, obtusely angled base sherds	DR	MBA

Fig. 1

North Waltham, Hants. Pot 4102 in situ.
Scale 20cm

Sussex

Pottery from Baily's Hill, Crowlink, East Sussex (BHF 15)

Pottery dates discussed: Beaker, EBA, later BA, RB, early MED
Report type: assessment
Report commissioned by: CG Archaeology
Date of report: November 2015

10 sherds of pottery were recovered from Baily's Hill (Tab. 7). All were small and abraded. The *likely* pottery dates include Beaker (1 sherd), Early Bronze Age (1 sherd), later Bronze Age (1 or 2 sherds), Romano-British (1 sherd) and early medieval (3 sherds). As always with un- or poorly stratified material, with no internal relationships to support/ qualify the identifications made, it should be emphasized that the exact dating — and therefore interest — of the prehistoric and Roman sherds is only likely, not certain. The only exception is the EBA sherd from locus 1, which is indistinguishable from EBA material recovered during excavation from Baily's Hill Barrow cemetery (Hamilton 2001). Two sherds are undatable because of their small size and one only very imprecisely dated because of the reoccurrence of the fabric comprising it at different periods, both during prehistory and later.

Table 7

Pottery from Baily's Hill: quantification, fabric, other diagnostics and likely date

Code	Locus	No of sherds	Fabrics	Other diagnostics	Likely date
BHF/1	1	1	GFF	hard; *possible* twisted-cord impressions	EBA
BHF/4	6	1	GFFQ	possible whip-cord impressions	Beaker
BHF/5	7	1	MCF	none	later BA (MBA or LBA)
BHF/6	14	2	unknown	two small to categorize or date	ND
BHF/6	14	1	MG	none	early medieval
BHF/6	14	2	Q (two varieties)	none	early medieval
BHF/7	21	1	G	looks like ESW but too small to date with certainty — possibly Thundersbarrow Ware	RB
BHF/7	21	1	MF	none	NEO, later BA or mid SAX

Key: grog and fine flint temper; GFFQ = sandy with grog and fine flint temper; MCF = medium to coarse flint temper; MG = multi-grit temper; Q = hard, coarse sandy fabrics; G = grog temper; MF = medium flint temper

Prehistoric Pottery from Belle Tout, East Sussex (BTE16)

Pottery dates discussed: Beaker, EBA, LBA
Report type: full
Report commissioned by: CG Archaeology
Date of report: April 2017

The recent excavations at Belle Tout (BTE16) yielded 129 sherds of prehistoric pottery, with a total weight of c. 300 grams (Tab. 8). The individual sherds are mostly of very small size, in almost every case too small for any attempt at a reconstruction of the vessels from which they derive (the same has been observed of other excavated assemblages from the site — S. Hamilton pers. comm.). They are also mostly from layers of apparently redeposited material, rather than discrete features. This is of great interest in terms of the site's taphonomy, but it militates against a full and accurate assessment of the pottery, there being little on site against which the specialist can confirm, refine or qualify his or her pre-existing inferences about pottery traditions and chronology, and little from which to draw any new inferences about pottery use and the pottery using cultures represented on site. Up to a point therefore the assemblage remains in interpretative limbo. Analogy with better preserved and better contextualized assemblages at Belle Tout and from elsewhere within the region, however, has isolated sherds belonging to three pottery traditions within the assemblage, along with a fourth group, which includes pottery possibly belonging to two different further traditions or one or other of these two traditions. These are Beaker, dated to the very end of the Neolithic or the very beginning of the Early Bronze Age, Collared Urn/ Food Vessel, dated to the Early Bronze Age, and post Deverel-Rimbury, dated to the Late Bronze Age and the very beginning of the Early Iron Age (here probably not as late as the Iron Age), and Peterborough Ware, dated to the Middle Neolithic, and Deverel-Rimbury, dated to the Middle Bronze Age. Peterborough Ware, Beaker, Food Vessel and post Deverel-Rimbury pottery have previously been found on site (Bradley 1970; 1971; Seager Thomas 2010a, 8). Deverel-Rimbury pottery would be a first, though it is common in the region (e.g. Hamilton 2001; Seager Thomas 2008). The composition and distribution of the assemblage *as a whole* also has implications for our understanding of the use of the site at different periods.

Beaker pottery

Unambiguously identified Beaker sherds come from GTP2 only and comprise 10% of the assemblage (13 sherds from six or seven different Beakers), while unambiguously identified and possible Beaker sherds combined come to only just over twice that (29 sherds). Given that Belle Tout is supposed to be a Beaker site, this comes as something of a surprise. The unambiguously identified Beaker sherds are in a sandy (Q) and two typically Beaker, finely grog tempered fabrics (FG2 and FGF) and decorated using techniques and designs recognizable both in the pre-existing Beaker assemblages from the site and elsewhere in the region (cf. Bradley 1970, 340, ware 6; Clarke 1970; Piggott 1934). The sherds, however, are too small to assign to any particular Beaker classification. The *possible* Beaker sherds, are in subtly different fine and coarse grog tempered and sandy fabrics (FG1, G1, GVQ and VQ), thin

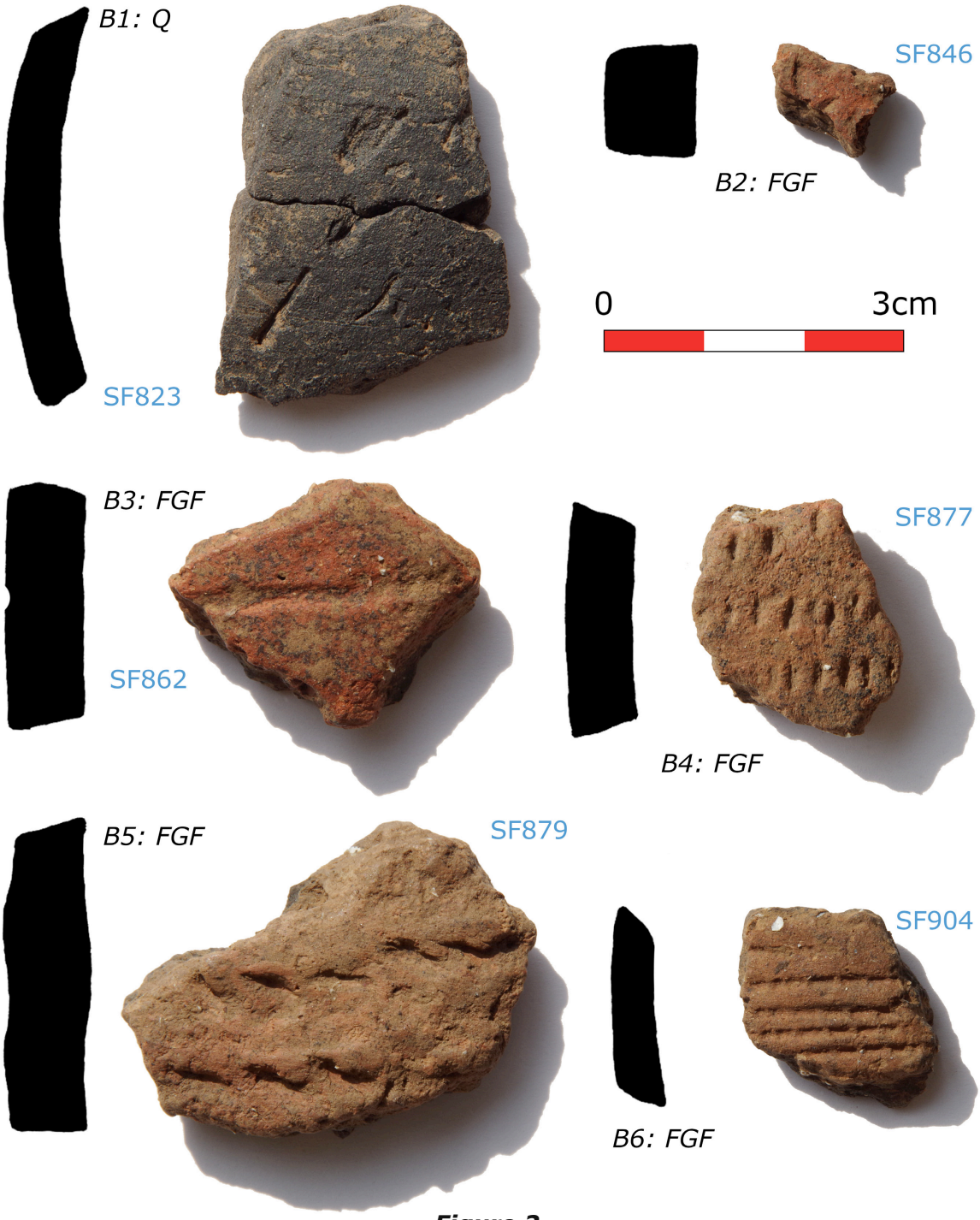

Figure 2

Beaker sherds from GTP2

bodied but undecorated. In association with Beaker pottery and in the absence of later pottery traditions that employed grog tempering, both grog tempered fabrics *could* be attributed to the Beaker tradition, but in the presence of later pottery traditions that employed grog tempering (at Belle Tout, primarily the Collared Urn/ Food Vessel tradition), and in view of the fact that neither FG1 nor G1 was present in GTP2, such an attribution here would be unsafe. Neither GVQ nor VQ are typically Beaker but their closest on site analogue is fabric Q, which is Beaker. Similar sandy fabrics, however, occur within the region during later prehistory, so once again a definitive attribution to one period or another would be unsafe.

Collared Urn/ Food Vessel

In terms of sherd numbers (16) and weight, the Collared Urn/ Food Vessel tradition is better represented but the sherds come from fewer vessels, were spread more widely across the site (in five locations — T2, TPD1, TPH1, TPK3 and GTP3), some demonstrably transported to their findspots by colluvium, and were more frequently associated with pottery belonging to other traditions. The sherds are in three different coarse grog tempered fabrics, all of which are typical of the tradition locally (CGQ, G2 and GV) (cf. Seager Thomas 2008; Ellison 1980). A single feature sherd in fabric CGQ may either be from a cordon or the base of a simple collar from a Collared Urn (e.g. Hamilton 2001, figs 11.7 & 12.17). In Sussex, where its function is demonstrable, Collared Urn/ Food vessel is associated exclusively with funerary activity. The Collared Urn/ Food Vessel tradition provides the most likely alternative for the unattributed fabrics FG1 nor G1 discussed above, both of which were associated with it. Owing to their wider on site relationships, however, this attribution such an attribution cannot be made with certainty either.

Post Deverel-Rimbury

By far the best-represented pottery tradition on site is post Deverel-Rimbury (50 sherds, also from five different locations — T2, T3, TPC1, TPD1 and TPH1). Again there are few feature sherds and the assemblage is difficult to characterize, but collectively the different trenches yielded a range of fine to coarse flint tempered fabrics typical of the tradition locally (FF, FMF Glau, made from glauconitic clay, FMF, MF and MCF) (cf. Seager Thomas 2008). Three observations need to be made. The first is that the assemblage, as a whole and by trench group, is unlike the most recent post Deverel-Rimbury groups from the region. Though the post Deverel-Rimbury tradition continued into the Iron Age, this assemblage did not. The second is the distribution of the glauconitic sherds, which come from two trenches only. This may reflect a variety of different resource procurement strategies on site, and/ or be indicative of two period groups (locally, glauconitic clays tend to be associated with later, rather than earlier post Deverel-Rimbury traditions). The third is the small quantities of course ware sherds present (even if we add to these a group of uncertainly attributed coarse flint tempered sherds reported below). These proportions, which are paralleled in late post Deverel-Rimbury assemblages from neighbouring West Sussex (Hamilton & Manley 1997), must reflect the nature of pottery use on site have implications in terms of our understanding of site's function during the Late Bronze Age.

Peterborough Ware or later Bronze Age (Deverel-Rimbury or post Deverel-Rimbury)

Nine sherds further sherds, in three medium to coarse flint tempered fabrics (MCF, MFG and CF), have characteristics of quite differently dated pottery traditions and cannot therefore be attributed with certainty. Individual sherds in all three fabrics are laminated, and many of the larger flints within them are aligned with the surfaces. These characteristics are particularly associated with Neolithic pottery, which is known from the site, but are occasionally seen in both Deverel-Rimbury and, less often, post Deverel-Rimbury pottery. Flint and grog tempered fabrics like MFG, however, are better paralleled locally within the Deverel-Rimbury tradition (e.g. in the assemblage from Black Patch, Alciston — Seager Thomas 2008, pl. 1.7), which is not currently

known from the site, and in early post Deverel-Rimbury assemblages (e.g. that from Beddingham Roman Villa — Seager Thomas 2006). If pressed, this specialist would plump for a Neolithic date for at least some of these sherds, particularly one in CF from TPC1, which closely resembles Peterborough Ware from elsewhere on the site, but in view of the dominance of the present assemblage by post Deverel-Rimbury pottery, a similar attribution for the remainder would perhaps be more plausible.

Summary

Three unambiguous prehistoric pottery traditions/ period groups are represented within the assemblage. The earliest, Beaker, dated to the Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age, was concentrated to the east of the so-called Beaker enclosure. The second, Collared Urn/ Food Vessel, dated to the Early Bronze Age, was widespread across the excavated area, but probably originated somewhere uphill of the site, most likely in a funerary deposit. The third, post Deverel-Rimbury, dated to the Late Bronze Age at Belle Tout, was widespread across the site, the composition of the assemblage suggesting ongoing or repeated occupation and pottery use that is atypical of the tradition as a whole but paralleled on a particular type of site. Of the three unambiguous prehistoric pottery traditions/ period groups represented within the assemblage this latter is by far the most common. A fourth group, Peterborough Ware, dated to the Middle Neolithic, may also be present, but owing to similarities between it and fabrics belonging to other traditions, this cannot be confirmed with certainty. To the extent that these identifications and interpretations differ from or add to our prexisiting understanding of the site, they are of considerable importance. It must be acknowledged, however, that at 129 sherds the present assemblage is a very small one, and that the addition of just a few more, though unlikely to impact greatly on its dating, could change its interpretation. A priority for any future research therefore would be the recovery of bigger and hopefully more securely representative assemblages.

Table 8

Prehistoric pottery from Belle Tout: quantification, fabric, other diagnostics and likely date

Trench/ TP	Context	SF no	Sherd qty	Fabric	Other diagnostics	Pottery tradition	Suggested date
T2	201	4	1	CGQ	none	CU/FV	EBA
T2	202	1	1	MCF	none	PDR	LBA
T2	202	2	1	CGQ	none	CU/FV	EBA
T2	204	3	1	CGQ	possible base of collar of Collared Urn	CU/FV	EBA
T2	205	0	1	FMF	none	DR/PDR	LBA
T2	205	5	1	CGQ	none	CU/FV	EBA
T2	205	6	1	GV	none	(?)CU/FV	(?)EBA
T2	207	0	1	CGQ	none	CU/FV	EBA
T2TP	201	12	1	too small to attribute	none	unknown	ND
T3	304	1a	1	MF	none	PDR	LBA
T3	304	2a	1	MF	out-turned neck and simple rounded rim of probable shouldered jar	PDR	LBA
T3	304	4	1	MF	none	PDR	LBA
T3	306	3	1	MFG	laminated	unknown	NEO or later BA
T3	307	0	1	FF	none	PDR	LBA
T3	307	5	1	FF	none	PDR	LBA
T3	307	6	1	FF	none	PDR	LBA
T3	307	7	1	FF	none	PDR	LBA
T3	307	8	1	VQ	none	unknown	(?)NEO/EBA
T3	307	10	1	FF	none	PDR	LBA
T3	307	11	1	FF	none	PDR	LBA
T3	307	12	3	FF	none	PDR	LBA
T3	308	1	5	too small to attribute	none	unknown	ND
T3	308	9	1	GVQ	thin	unknown	(?)NEO/EBA
T3	320	0	1	G1	thin	unknown	NEO/EBA or EBA
T3	323	2	1	MCF	none	unknown	(?)NEO or later BA
T3	323	13	3	MCF	laminated	unknown	NEO or later BA
TPC1	n/a	12	1	FMF	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	22	1	MFG	none	unknown	(?)NEO or later BA
TPC1	n/a	36	1	too small to attribute	none	unknown	ND
TPC1	n/a	59	1	GQ	none	unknown	(?)LBA
TPC1	n/a	65	1	CF	laminated	(?)Peterborough Ware	NEO or later BA

Trench/ TP	Context	SF no	Sherd qty	Fabric	Other diagnostics	Pottery tradition	Suggested date
TPC1	n/a	99	1	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	100	1	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	101	7	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	102	6	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	103	1	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	105	1	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	114	1	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	129	1	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	130	3	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	131	3	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	135	4	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	143	9	FMF Glau & MFG	none	PDR and unknown	LBA and NEO or later BA
TPC1	n/a	144	2	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPC1	n/a	145	11	FMF Glau, MF, MFG	none	PDR and unknown	LBA and NEO or later BA
TPC1	n/a	151	1	MFG	none	unknown	NEO or later BA
TPD1	360?	4	1	G2	none	CU/FV	EBA
TPD1	363/364	56	1	FMF Glau	none	PDR	LBA
TPD1	363/364	72	1	CF	laminated	unknown	NEO or later BA
TPD1	363/364	83	10	FG1	none	unknown	NEO/EBA or EBA
TPH1	unknown	10	1	G2	thick	CU/FV	EBA
TPH1	439?	30	1	G2	thick	CU/FV	EBA
TPH1	439?	31	1	G2	none	CU/FV	EBA
TPH1	439/440	17	1	G2	none	CU/FV	EBA
TPH1	439/440	21	1	MCF	heavily-gritted base	PDR	LBA
TPH1	440	15	1	G2	thick	CU/FV	EBA
TPK3	unknown	16	1	GV	thick	CU/FV	EBA
GTP2	n/a	823	4	Q	short line impressed decoration (B1)	Beaker	NEO/EBA
GTP2	n/a	842	1	FGF	none	Beaker	NEO/EBA
GTP2	n/a	846	1	FGF	possible rustication (B2)	Beaker	NEO/EBA
GTP2	n/a	858	1	FGF	possible rustication	Beaker	NEO/EBA
GTP2	n/a	862	1	FGF	single line impressed decoration (B3)	Beaker	NEO/EBA
GTP2	n/a	870	1	FG2	none	Beaker	NEO/EBA
GTP2	n/a	877	1	FGF	serried, short line (dot) impressed decoration (B4)	Beaker	NEO/EBA

Trench/ TP	Context	SF no	Sherd qty	Fabric	Other diagnostics	Pottery tradition	Suggested date
GTP2	n/a	879	1	FGF	serried, 'V' (?bone) impressed decoration (B5)	Beaker	NEO/EBA
GTP2	n/a	881	1	FG2	none	Beaker	NEO/EBA
GTP2	n/a	904	1	FGF	parallel comb impressed decoration (B6)	Beaker	NEO/EBA
GTP3	n/a	311	1	CGQ	none	CU/FV	EBA
GTP3	n/a	322	1	G2	none	CU/FV	EBA
GTP3	n/a	330	1	G1	thin	unknown	NEO/EBA or EBA
GTP3	n/a	351	1	G1	thin	unknown	NEO/EBA or EBA
GTP3	n/a	378	1	G1	thin	unknown	NEO/EBA or EBA

Key (in order of appearance in table)
Fabrics: CGQ = sandy coarse grog tempered fabric of local Collared Urn/ Food vessel type; MCF = time transgressive local medium to coarse flint-tempered fabric; FMF = fine to medium flint tempered fabric of post LBA/EIA post Deverel-Rimbury type; GV = (decalcified) shelly grog tempered fabric of local Collared Urn/ Food vessel type; MF = time transgressive local medium flint-tempered fabric; MFG = local medium flint-tempered fabric of Deverel-Rimbury type; VQ = sandy, decalcified shelly fabric of unknown date; GVQ = sandy, decalcified shelly, grog tempered fabric of unknown date; G1 = thin bodied, coarse grog tempered fabric of uncertain date of Beaker or local Collared Urn/ Food vessel type; GQ = sandy grog-tempered fabric of uncertain date; CF = coarse flint tempered fabric of local Neolithic (Peterborough Ware) type; FMF Glau = glauconitic fine to medium flint tempered fabric of local later' late post Deverel-Rimbury type; G2 = (usually thick bodied) coarse grog tempered fabric of local Collared Urn/ Food vessel type; FG = fine grog tempered fabric of local Beaker type; FGF = fine grog and rare medium flint tempered fabric of local Beaker type.
Pottery traditions: PDR = post Deverel-Rimbury (here LBA); CU/FV = Collared Urn/ Food Vessel (EBA); DR = Deverel-Rimbury (MBA).
Dates: EBA = Early Bronze Age; LBA = Late Bronze Age; ND = not dated; NEO = later Neolthic; later BA = Middle Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age; NEO/EBA = Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age transition (the Beaker period)

Beach Pebbles from BTE16

Material type: utilized and "natural" stone
Report type: full
Report commissioned by: CG Archaeology
Date of report: February 2017

66 beach pebbles with a total weight of approximately 2800 grams were recovered from BTE16. Six of these are quartzite (710 gms) (Tab. 9) and 60 flint (2097 gms) (Tab. 10). Four of the quartzite pebbles had been utilized, and one of the flint pebbles burnt. The remainder consists of unmodified and uncurated 'natural', most likely from a Tertiary pebble bed formerly located on or upslope of the site.

The utilized quartzite pebbles are naturally flat but of different shapes and sizes. Use is indicated by the presence of two flat facets on the end of one stone, end batter and percussion flake scars on and at the ends of three stones (including the one with the flat facet), and a longitudinal percussion flake scar on the remaining stone. Polish, sometimes seen on the flat surfaces of quartzite beach pebbles in the region, is not present. The use to which these stones were put cannot be inferred with certainty. Given the hardness of quartzite, however, it is suggested that the faceted stone was used to rub stone, an action, which when associated with percussion, is characteristic of flint knapping. The end batter and percussion flakes show clearly that all four stones were used as percussors. Flint knapping would also explain the selection — if indeed these stones were selected — of stones of different size and shape for percussors.

Individual flint pebbles among the assemblage could have been utilized but if they were, this cannot be proved. None are useworn and there is no evidence of sorting by people, either by size, shape or colour (the larger the group, the less well sorted they appear). Also of note is how many fall below the size/ weight range attested in the ethnohistorical record as viable for slinging (>33%).

Basically they *look* like an uncurated Tertiary group, not manuports and not a group from an active beach. Their sorting — or lack of it — compares closely to that of beach pebbles in lag Tertiary deposits elsewhere in East Sussex (Seager Thomas 2014, fig. 8). Out of eight that were cracked open, seven are deeply patinated and five have the honey-coloured interior usually associated with Sussex Tertiary beach pebbles (Lake *et al*. 1987, 77), while none have the fresh appearance typical of pebbles found on the active beach at nearby Berling Gap, which is fed by fresh chalk flint from the adjacent sea cliffs. The excavation of BTE16 may therefore have provided evidence for a previously unrecognized geology in the vicinity.

Table 9

Flat quartzite beach pebbles from Belle Tout (BTE16)

Locus	SF no	Weight (gms)	Long axis (mms)	Evidence of use	Comments
C1 spit 2		40	49	split longitudinally with single percussion flake scar	possible hammerstone

Locus	SF no	Weight (gms)	Long axis (mms)	Evidence of use	Comments
G1 off flint layer		20	42	none	natural
GTP2	884	80	65	both ends battered, with small percussion flake scars	hammerstone/ rubber
K5/016		150	>60	end flat facetted and battered with small percussion flake scars	broken across its long axis. The faceting on the end probably pre-dates the batter. Rubber/ hammerstone
TR3	310	200	95	both ends battered, with large percussion flake scars	hammerstone
X1/008		220	104	none	possibly selected for its very flat surface

Table 10

Flint beach pebbles from Belle Tout (BTE16)

Locus	SF nos	Qty	Weight (gms)	Long axis (mm)	Roundness	Comments
GTP1		19	875	10–75	sub rounded–rounded	
GTP3		7	250	27–44	sub rounded–rounded	
GTP2		10	395	18–60	sub rounded–rounded	1 fire fractured
G1 off flint layer		8	167	18–45	sub rounded–rounded	
D		5	100	18–48	sub angular-rounded	
C1 spit 7		4	80	20–40	sub-angular–rounded	
K		5	110	21–38	sub rounded–rounded	
X		1	40	36	sub rounded	
E		1	80	45	sub rounded	

Prehistoric Pottery from Behill (BX2)

Pottery dates discussed: Beaker, MBA, LBA
Report type: spot date
Report commissioned by: Chris Butler Archaeological Services (CBAS)
Date of report: August 2016

Not a completely straightforward assemblage, but I think I've worked it out. Beaker (LNEO/EBA) and Deverel-Rimbury (MBA) are definitely represented and post Deverel-Rimbury (LBA) is probably represented. Nothing here is Neolithic, unless you want fashionably to make the Beaker Late Neolithic, and though I can't prove it, I'm pretty sure there is no Collared Urn/ Biconical Urn/ Food vessel.

I don't know which sherds were previously dated Neolithic, but the coarse flint-tempered stuff lacks the laminated structure characteristic of Neolithic flint-tempered pottery, and the context from which most of it comes yielded one Deverel-Rimbury/MBA feature sherd. The other possibility is the heavily tool-impressed grog-tempered sherds, which look a bit like MNEO Peterborough Ware, and whose fabric could be LNEO Grooved Ware. Neither the fabric, however, nor one of the feature sherds (a flat expanded base of fairly large diameter) are what would be expected of Peterborough Ware, while Grooved Ware is very rare locally, usually has some kind of linear patterning, and though flat bottomed, is rarely pinched at the base. On the other hand, similar impressed Beaker is known from Brighton.

In my view most of the Beaker feature sherds are completely unambiguous — the heavily tool impressed stuff, fingertip impressed sherds, comb-impressed sherds, a billet impressed rim sherd, etc.

The main difficulty is ruling out EBA Collared Urn/ Biconical Urn/ Food vessel. Some of the grog-tempered fabrics are more like it than Beaker. However, since every grog-tempered feature sherd could be Beaker and many of them nothing else and none at all definitely Collared Urn/ Biconical Urn/ Food vessel, I've made them all Beaker.

As I already noted, there is a Deverel-Rimbury/ MBA rim sherd, and the coarse flint tempered sherds are typical of this tradition/ period, so again, there is no ambiguity here.

The probable post Deverel-Rimbury (LBA) overlaps with the Deverel-Rimbury/ MBA stuff but there is something about it that 'feels' LBA, rather than MBA, hence the 'probably' LBA. There is also a glauconitic sherd, which elsewhere would be PDR (or later) rather than DR, though one has to remember that the far east of Sussex is one of the proposed origins of out glauconitic clays, so this may be meaningless.

Table 11

Prehistoric pottery from Bexhill: fabrics, quantification, other diagnostics, pottery tradition and suggested dating

Context	SF no	Fabric	Number of sherds	Other diagnostics	Pottery tradition	Spot date
336	1	G	32	possible comb impressed sherd	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
	none	G	12	none	Beaker	LNEO/EBA

Context	SF no	Fabric	Number of sherds	Other diagnostics	Pottery tradition	Spot date
351	2	VCF	1	very thick	DR	MBA
	none	VCF	5	none	DR	MBA
	none	CF	66	squared rim sherd	DR	MBA
	none	CF (glau)	1	rounded rim	possibly PBR	?LBA
353	none	G	1	two rows of fingernail impressions over/ underlain by roughly scored lines (unoxidized)	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
412	none	G	1	none	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
421	none	FMF	2	none	DR or PDR	M/LBA LBA preferred
477	none	DC	1	none	unknown	ND
496	none	FMF	2	thin	DR or PDR	M/LBA LBA preferred
498	none	FMF	1	thin	DR or PDR	M/LBA MBA preferred
552	5	GFMF	1	heavily tool-impressed expanded base sherd	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
	6	G	1	(base)	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
	none	GFMF	14	rim sherd with several lines of horizontal billet impressions below (unoxidized); heavily tool impressed body sherds	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
	none	GMCF	5	fingernail impressed sherds	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
556	none	MF	1	none	DR	MBA
560	none	GMCF	2	thin	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
562	none	G	2	none	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
674	none	GFMF	1	very small	possibly Beaker	?LNEO/EBA
683	7	G	1	(base)	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
	none	G	5	none	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
683/D	none	G	2	none	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
690	none	MCF	1	none	DR or PDR	M/LBA LBA preferred
	none	U	1	none	DR or PDR	M/LBA LBA preferred
696	none	G	3	none	Beaker	LNEO/EBA
associated with linear feature	none	U	3	none	unknown	ND

Bronze Age Pottery from Glatting Down Cross-Ridge-Dyke, West Sussex

Pottery dates discussed: MBA
Report type: full
Report commissioned by: Judy English
Date of report: May 2018

Today the important prehistoric assemblage from Glatting Down comprises 53 sherds weighing approximately 400 grams, although glue on some sherd breaks, to which no sherds now join, and some plaster of Paris repairs, to which likewise no sherds join, indicate that some of sherds originally present are now missing. The surviving sherds are mostly small but their edges are unabraded, and, with one or two exceptions, their surfaces unabraded and unweathered. They were found together at the base of the ditch (J. English pers. comm.), which in the light of their good state of preservation, suggests that they form a primary deposit and may therefore provides an approximate date for the ditch.

The sherds best reconstruct as a Sussex Deverel-Rimbury "globular bowl", of Ellison type 7, closely analogous to vessels recovered from at least eight other Sussex sites (Ellison 1980, fig. 11 right; Hamilton 2002, fig. 2.29.11 & 2.31.24; Musson 1954, fig. 7.540; Seager Thomas 2002, appx 6, fig. 3.9). These are currently dated to the latter half of the Middle Bronze Age (1500–1150BC). Only part of its shoulder, which is decorated (**Fig. 3**), and a

Figure 3

Reconstructed Middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury globular jar from Glatting Down Cross-Ridge Dyke. Scale 5cm

few undecorated body sherds survive, but the rounded shape of the vessel, its intermediate flint-tempered fabric, the thickness of its walls, its finish and both its decoration, which though only occasionally present in Sussex Deverel-Rimbury assemblages (Hamilton 2002, fig. 2.31.24), is common in those from adjacent counties (Seager Thomas 2003, fig. 1.5; this vol., 20), and the execution of this, position it unambiguously in terms of the tradition to which it is here attributed. A single characteristic only stands out in terms of Sussex Deverel-Rimbury traditions and that is its fabric, which, apart from the usual Deverel-Rimbury flint-temper, is characterised by abundant angular grog-inclusions (**Fig. 4; Tab. 12**) (I should point out here that the fabric does not match any associated with any other local pottery tradition).

Figure 4

The heavily grog-tempered used in the Glatting Down globular jar. Scale 2.5cm

Apart from its role in the dating of the Cross-Ridge-Dyke, the Glatting Down vessel stands out for three reasons. Firstly, it is a rare type, for which, for this reason, we can postulate a special role. How this manifested itself at Glatting Down remains to be established, but its position at the base of the ditch may be of significance. Secondly, its fabric is unusual. This may reflect non-local production or influence or a minority tradition locally. And lastly, since its excavation in 1917, it has somehow escaped the attention of three generations of pot specialists, including the present writer (Musson 1954; Ellison 1970; 1980; Seager Thomas 2008). This begs the question, how many other interpretatively useful sherds have we missed? For a wide range of very different reasons, the prehistoric assemblage from Glatting Down is important.

Table 12

Glatting Down globular jar fabric description

Fabric FMFG
Sherds 6–10mm thick. Unoxidized with brown–black surface and core. An exact quantification of the fabric's inclusions is not possible owing to its soot-soaking, which homogenizes these. My best estimate is: rare (c. 1–2%) fine sand-sized (0.5–1mm) burnt flint; common (30–40%), angular, fine–medium sand-sized (0.5–2mm) grog; and rare (1%), irregularly shaped, very fine–medium sand-sized (0.2.5–2mm) voids. The fabric looks Deverel-Rimbury, but for Sussex, it is atypical.

Assessment of the Prehistoric Pottery from Peacehaven (PH-EVAL-17)

Pottery dates discussed: MBA, LBA
Report type: assessment
Report commissioned by: SWAT Archaeology
Date of report: June 2017

The prehistoric pottery assemblage from PH-EVAL-17 consists of 176 sherds with a weight of just over two kilograms (Tab. 13). Most are heavily weathered. Two traditions and two period groups are represented: Deverel-Rimbury, dated at PH-Eval-17 to the end of the Middle Bronze Age (perhaps *c*. 1200BC), and post Deverel-Rimbury, dated at PH-Eval-17 to the Late Bronze Age (c. 950–800BC). This attribution is based both on the fabrics and forms present. The assemblage from (213)/[214] includes both Deverel-Rimbury and post Deverel-Rimbury pottery. The assemblages from the other features are most likely wholly post Deverel-Rimbury.

The Deverel-Rimbury pottery
Dominating the assemblage are 140 sherds from a single coarsely flint tempered, open-mouthed, bucket shaped urn of generic Deverel-Rimbury type. It had a plain squared rim and two horizontal bosses approximately 9cm below the rim and was approximately 28cm in diameter. Its late dating (the Deverel-Rimbury tradition in the southeast first appears at least 300 hundred years earlier) at PH-Eval-17 is suggested by its thin body, a characteristic often associated with the post Deverel-Rimbury tradition, and its flint and grog tempered fabric, which in East Sussex, is currently best paralleled in a transitional Deverel-Rimbury/ post Deverel-Rimbury assemblage (from Beddingham Roman Villa).

The urn's state of preservation and spatial isolation, assuming there is no functional relationship between it and the later pottery with which it was found, is wholly consistent with the excavator's interpretation of it as a cinerary urn.

Post Deverel-Rimbury pottery
The post Deverel-Rimbury assemblage is much smaller but more diverse, comprising nine different fabrics, including fine, medium and coarse wares, from the same number of, or possibly even more pots. Its attribution is based on the fabric suites comprising the assemblages from [1401]/(1412) and [1910], which are characteristic of the tradition locally, and two bowl forms, one hemispherical and one bi-partite, distinguishable amongst the sherds from (213)/[214], which are also characteristic of the tradition. Owing to the small size of the assemblage and the restricted range of feature sherds present, it is not possible to place it precisely within the tradition, but, viewed as a group, the large number of very different fabrics would recommend a middle or late phase attribution for it over an early one. There is no possibility of an overlap between it and the Deverel-Rimbury pottery with which it was associated.

The group stands out for two reasons — firstly, the fabric suite from (213)/[214] is not typical of the tradition locally, indeed, fabric CQ, from which the bi-partite bowl was fashioned, is a first for the area; and secondly, the assemblage as a whole includes an oddly high proportion of fine wares

and distinguishably small vessels. These very likely have implications in terms of the site's social relationships, pottery procurement strategies and role during the Late Bronze Age. As it stands, however, the assemblage is too small to make much of interpretatively.

Interpretative importance

Beyond the observations made above, and the contextualization of these in terms of their feature relationships, the present assemblage has no potential interpretatively. But where there is one cinerary urn, there are very likely more, while a larger assemblage of post Deverel-Rimbury pottery from the site would very likely illuminate the issues raised by the post Deverel-Rimbury assemblage's atypical composition. From a ceramic point of view, therefore, further investigation of the site, if not of the present assemblage, would be welcomed.

Table 13

Prehistoric pottery from Peacehaven PH-EVAL-17

Cut	Fill	No of sherds	Weight in grams	Fabrics	Other diagnostics	Pottery tradition	Spot date	Comments
214	213	140	1920	CF1	large, relatively thin-bodied DR-type open mouthed bucket-shaped urn with 2 horizontal bosses and plain squared rim	DR	MBA	Thin body and grog inclusions suggest a later, rather than earlier DR attribution
		16	70	CF2	small, possibly hemispherical bowl with plain squared rim	PDR	LBA	All the fabrics represented are possible within the PDR tradition locally but collectively they form an atypical suite for the region
		3	20	GQ	rim and side of small PDR-type hemispherical bowl with flat-topped, slightly internally expanded rim			
		2	10	Q FMF	Q burnished			
		1	5	CQ	possible rim and neck of PDR-type bipartite bowl. Very soft fabric	(?) PDR	ND	Fabric CQ has no PDR parallels locally known to the specialist
1401	1412	6	30	FFQ x 1 FMF x 1 MF x 1 DS x 3	FFQ burnished	PDR	LBA	Typical PDR fabric suite
1910	1913	1	5	MF	none	PDR	LBA	While some sherds from 1910 could be DR, the suite as a whole is more characteristic of the PDR tradition
	1914	3	8	MF	burnished	PDR	LBA	
	1916	1	5	MCF	plain rounded rim	DR or PDR	MBA or LBA	
		3	15	MF x 2 CF1 x 1	none			

Key
Fabrics (in order of appearance in table): CF1 = coarse flint tempered fabric with grog and iron oxide inclusions (more densely tempered than CF2); CF2 = sparse coarse flint tempered fabric; GQ = fine sandy grog tempered fabric; Q = soft sandy fabric (like FFQ without the flint); FMF = fine to medium flint tempered fabric; CQ = medium to coarse sandy fabric; FFQ sandy sparse fine flint tempered fabric; FMF = fine to medium flint tempered fabric; MF = medium flint tempered fabric; DS = (decalcified) shelly fabric; MCF = medium to coarse flint tempered fabric
Traditions: DR = Deverel-Rimbury; PDR = post Deverel-Rimbury

Peacehaven XSCR16 — 'prehistoric' pottery spot date

Pottery dates discussed: RB
Report type: spot date
Report commissioned by: Pre-Construct Archaeology (London)
Date of report: April 2016

Currently it is impossible to distinguish LIA from RB East Sussex Ware body sherds. Amongst the ESW from this site, two sherds are probably diagnostic of a later date: the sharply everted neck/rim, which is of later (not first century AD) Roman type, and the coloured grogged fabric, which resembles, though in this case it is thinner bodied than, late Roman Thundersbarrow Ware. The sandy stuff is unambiguously Roman.

Context	Number of sherds	Fabric	Other diagnostics/ comments	Likely date
28	1	ESW	none	RB
18	2	ESW	none	RB
18	2	grey sandy	none	RB
45	8	ESW	none	RB
20	8	ESW	none	RB
20	2	sandy	none	RB
20	4	fine sandy	none	RB
33	1	ESW	Vivid coloured grog like Thundersbarrow Ware	LRB
58	1	ESW	none	RB
47	3	ESW	sharply everted rim/ neck of high Roman (not ERB) type	RB
Key ESW = East Sussex Ware; RB = Romano British; LRB = Late Romano British				

Seven Sisters Archaeological Project (AEA 273)— Pottery and CBM dating

Pottery dates discussed:
Report type: spot date
Report commissioned by: Allen Environmental Archaeology
Date of report: November 2015

29 sherds from three locations were submitted for fabric analysis and spot dating: Rough Bottom test pit 1: 1 sherd; Limekiln Bottom test pit 2: 12 sherds; and Gap Bottom test pit 3: 16 sherds (Tab. 15). The attribution of most of the sherds to pottery tradition and date is complicated by their small size and the small size of the assemblages from each pit. 13 fabrics were distinguished, however, which can be separated individually and/or as suites into four different pottery traditions and five or six likely periods groups: Middle Bronze Age (MBA) Deverel-Rimbury, Late Bronze Age (LBA) and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (LBA/EIA) *post* Deverel-Rimbury, Late Iron Age (LIA) and/or Romano British (RB) East Sussex Ware, and Saxo-Norman. Closely dated analogues for these fabrics and fabric suites come from a range of sites locally (e.g. Drewett 1982; Seager Thomas 2008; 2015, 34–36).

The single sherd from Rough Bottom is an East Sussex Ware variant. It could be LIA or RB.

Limekiln Bottom test pit 2 yielded a single sherd of flint tempered MBA Deverel-Rimbury pottery in Deverel-Rimbury form, six flint tempered LBA or LBA/EIA post Deverel-Rimbury sherds, four LIA or RB East Sussex Ware sherds and one unambiguously RB grog-tempered sherd (not East Sussex Ware). Individual and small numbers of otherwise featureless sherds in these fabrics cannot be dated with precision. The absence of unambiguously late post Deverel-Rimbury pottery from the pit, however, provides weak evidence for a LBA rather than a later first millennium BC date for this group and, the presence of an (earlier) RB sherd, weak evidence for a RB rather than a LIA date for the East Sussex Ware group.

Finally, Gap Bottom test pit 3 yielded 12 sherds of flint tempered post Deverel-Rimbury type, including sandy, shelly and glauconitic variants, which as a group — if not individually — should belong to the end of the LBA or beginning of the Early Iron Age, an East Sussex Ware rim and a fragment of CBM, both of probable Roman date, and typical Saxo-Norman multi-gritted sherd.

Table 15

Prehistoric pottery and CBM recovered during the AEA Seven Sisters Archaeological Project: fabrics, quantification, likely date and other diagnostics

Locus	No(s)	Depth in mm	No of sherds	Fabric(s)	Likely date	Comments
TP1	<7>		1	G1	LIA/RB	ESW variant
TP2	<9>		1	G2	LIA/RB	ESW variant; burnt
TP2	<22>		1	MF1	LBA/EIA	PDR-fabric type
TP2	<32>		1	MF2	MBA	Plain squared rim of DR-type; DR fabric-type
TP2		30cm	2	G1, G2	LIA/RB	ESW variants. G2 probably burnt

TP2		40cm	2	G1, G3	LIA/RB, RB	Out-turned rim of jar in G1 — ESW variant. G3 similar to RB Patchgrove Ware; burnt; caked in calcrete
TP2		?70–90cm	5	MF1	LBA/EIA	Sherds broken from single sherd; PDR-fabric type
TP3	(1)		1	MG	early MED	Saxo-Norman fabric type
TP3	(3)		1	F	ND	Too small to date with any confidence; probably prehistoric
TP3	(3)	60cm +	1	MF1	LBA/EIA	PDR-fabric type
TP3	Δ5		1	CBM	RB or later	Too small to date precisely
TP3	Δ24		3	FS	LBA/EIA	PDR-fabric type
TP3	Δ28		1	FFGLAU	LBA/EIA	PDR-fabric type
TP3	Δ29		2	FMF	LBA/EIA	PDR-fabric type
TP3	Δ30		1	FQ	LBA/EIA	PDR-fabric type
TP3	Δ39		1	FMFQ	LBA/EIA	PDR-fabric type
TP3	Δ52		2	FMF, G1	LBA, RB	FMF: PDR-fabric type; burnished. G1: ESW variant; internally rounded rim in — probably of later Roman type
TP3	Δ60		1	MF	LBA/EIA	PDR-fabric type
TP3	Δ66		N/A	charred wood	N/A	None
TP3	Δ74		1	FMFQ	LBA/EIA	PDR-fabric type

Key:
G1 = grog tempered. Unquantifiable to sub-angular to rounded, medium sand sized grog (up to 1mm). Soapy feel. Ranges from completely unoxidized to completely oxidized. Burnished.

G2 = grog tempered. Unquantifiable to sub-angular to rounded, medium sand sized grog. Unquantifiable fine quartz sand. Very rare siderite nodules. Burnished.

G3 = grog tempered. Unquantifiable angular medium to coarse sand sized grog (up to 1.5mm).

CBM = ceramic building material.

F = flint tempered (sherd too small and/ or dirty to assess grade).

FQ = as F but with common fine to medium quartz sand.

MF1 = medium flint tempered. Sparse (c. 7%) white medium to coarse sand sized burnt flint up to 2mm. Unoxidized core; oxidized or unoxidized surfaces. Almost certainly several different medium flint tempered fabrics.

MF2 = as MF1 but poorly mixed and fired. Unoxidized core and interior surfaces; oxidized exterior surface.

FMF = Fine to medium flint tempered. Sparse (<7%) fine to coarse sand sized flint temper (flint max size 2mm; but proportion of large flints smaller than in MF1 and MF2). Unoxidized core; oxidized surfaces. Mostly to small to assess but sometimes definitely burnished

FMFQ = as FMF but with common fine to medium quartz sand inclusions. Unoxidized core; oxidized and unoxidized surfaces

FS = flint and shell tempered. Rare (2%) medium to coarse sand sized (1–1.5mm) white burnt flint (flint max size 1mm); rare to sparse (up to 4%) shell (max size 2mm). Unoxidized core, oxidized surfaces

FFGLAU = fine flint tempered glauconitic fabric. Sparse (c.5%) medium sand sized white burnt flint (up to 1mm). Unquantifiable fine quartz sand with glauconite. Unoxidized core and exterior surface, oxidized (brown) interior surface. Glauconite here is the same as Hamilton's pisolithic Fe-oxide.

MG = multi-grit tempered. Common (>25%) coarse sand sized multi-coloured, rounded quartz sand.

Bronze Age Pottery from St Nicholas and Mary School, Shoreham (SMM16)

Pottery dates discussed: EBA
Report type: full
Report commissioned by: Chris Butler Archaeological Services (CBAS)
Date of report: April 2017

The prehistoric pottery assemblage from St Nicholas and Mary School, feature 6, comprised 53 sherds weighing 90 grams (Tab.16). These are in a grog tempered fabric with rare flint inclusions typical of Sussex Collared Urn/ Food Vessel traditions (cf. Ellison 1980; Seager Thomas 2008). They include a small, simple rounded rim sherd from a small diameter pot, a few small body sherds and several larger base sherds, also from a small diameter pot. Probably all belong to a single pot, probably a cinerary urn. The survival of only a single rim sherd but several larger pieces of the base suggests that this was placed upright in the ground before being truncated (cf. Seager Thomas 2010b). The form of the pot cannot be reconstructed, but the rounded rim is *not* what would be expected of the usual Sussex Collared Urn/ Food Vessel types, and may indicate a poorer, artless equivalent.

Table 16

Bronze Age pottery from St Nicholas and Mary School, Shoreham

Context	Sample no	Sherd qty	Weight in grams	Fabric	Likely date	Comments
6	n/a	18	65	G	EBA	base sherds
6	<1>	35	25	G	EBA	simple rounded rim from small diameter pot

Assessment of the Prehistoric and Roman Pottery from Stone Cross, Pevensey (PEV-EX-16)

Pottery dates discussed: MBA, LBA, LIA/E-RB, RB
Report type: assessment
Report commissioned by: SWAT Archaeology
Date of report: August 2017

The early pottery assemblage from PEV-EX-16 consists of 174 sherds with a weight of 1.64 kilograms (Tab. 17). Most are heavily weathered. Four traditions and four period groups appear to be represented: Deverel-Rimbury, dated at PEV-EX-16 to the high Middle Bronze Age (between *c*. 1500 and 1150BC), post Deverel-Rimbury, dated at PEV-EX-16 to the Late Bronze Age (*c*. 1150–800BC), East Sussex Ware/ Eastern Atrebatic, dated at PEV-EX-16 to a period somewhere around the Roman conquest, and earlier Roman, represented by 1st–2nd century and later 2nd century sherds. 13 prehistoric sherds remain undated owing to their small size and lack of clearly dateable characteristics.

Deverel-Rimbury pottery

Definite or probable Deverel-Rimbury sherds, most of them in very weathered condition, were recovered from 26 contexts and comprise just under half of the prehistoric pottery assemblage from the site (73 sherds with a combined weight of 740 grams).

Only two feature sherds were present, and though these are both from typical Deverel-Rimbury straight-sided jars, the assemblage's identification as Deverel-Rimbury rests primarily on analogy between the flint, and the flint and grog tempered fabrics comprising it and the fabrics comprising assemblages attributed to this tradition elsewhere in the region (e.g. Black Patch, Alciston, and Plumpton Plain).

The Deverel-Rimbury assemblage is of note because of the range of fabrics and vessel thicknesses present in it (fine to coarse and thin to thick bodied), from which we can infer a that range of vessel types was present on site, the frequent co-occurrence in individual features of more than one fabric type, and the condition of the sherds, which are heavily weathered and often burnt, many demonstrably after they were broken, characteristics suggestive of settlement activity and rubbish disposal. Also of note — for our understanding of Sussex pottery — is the presence in examples of two of the site's fabrics (MCF and CF) of glauconite inclusions, a feature frequently seen in later Sussex fabrics but not in Deverel-Rimbury fabrics.

Post Deverel-Rimbury pottery

The site yielded a handful of weathered possible and probable post Deverel-Rimbury sherds (eight sherds weighing 29 grams), again identified primarily on the basis of analogy between their fabrics and those comprising assemblages belonging to this tradition from elsewhere in the region. These indicate a focus of post Deverel-Rimbury pottery use in the vicinity, but, given the small numbers of sherds recovered from PEV-EX-16, clearly not focused on it. The lack of spatial continuity between the Middle and Late Bronze Age occupations in the vicinity indicated by this is of note.

East Sussex Ware/ Eastern Atrebatic pottery

Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British — again most of it burnt and heavily weathered — was recovered from 13 contexts (73 sherds with a total weight of 769 grams). All but eight sherds are grog tempered East Sussex Ware. The use of East Sussex Ware continued long after the Roman conquest and its attribution at PEV-EX-16, is based on the sparsity of Romano-British pottery from the site (see below) and the identification amongst the assemblage of sherds from two vessels, a round shouldered, pedestalled jar decorated around the middle and on the shoulder with fingertip impressed cordons, and a jar with an omphalos base, both of which are early, if not certainly Iron Age (cf. Bishopstone, Herstmonceux, Horstead Keynes etc.: Green 1980). The role of the East Sussex Ware on site is difficult to pin down. But once again the burning of the sherds is of note, as is the composition of the assemblage, which includes two large vessels, and nothing else that survived in identifiable condition.

Roman pottery

The Roman pottery (seven sherds with a total weight of 21 grams) derive from two vessels, one, represented by a few plain body sherds only, in a typical earlier Romano-British sandy fabric, and another, comprising decorated, but very abraded, East Gaulish samian. The type of the latter is not reconstructable. It should be noted, that these Roman and Romano-British sherds were *not* directly associated with the East Sussex Ware described above.

Interpretative potential

The primary importance of the assemblage lies in its on site associations: which features it comes from and the implications of this for these features' dating and interpretation. The Deverel-Rimbury assemblage, for example, is probably a domestic assemblage; while the East Sussex Ware assemblage may not be. These inferences will surely inform our understanding of the features and feature complexes, such as the roundhouse, from which they derive, while the latter will perhaps qualify these inferences. In addition, the assemblage's two outstanding *ceramic* features — the Deverel-Rimbury glauconitic fabrics and the two early East Sussex Ware forms — may have implications for our understanding of Sussex prehistoric traditions, in terms of site procurement strategies and pottery dating, and, for these reasons, would be worth elaborating illustratively. It is also important to note that the Deverel-Rimbury assemblage is an outlier in terms of current distributions, though of course these are growing daily. Owing to the small size and poor preservation of the assemblage, however, the return of any further work on it beyond these suggestions is likely to be limited.

Table 17

Prehistoric pottery from Stone Cross PEV-EX-16

Fill	Cut/ locus	No of sherds	Weight in grams	Fabrics	Other diagnostics	Pottery tradition	Spot date	Comments
surface	area 4.2	1	2	CF	thin	DR	MBA	none
surface	near [2300]	3	3	G	none	ESW	LIA/RB	burnt

Fill	Cut/ locus	No of sherds	Weight in grams	Fabrics	Other diagnostics	Pottery tradition	Spot date	Comments
surface	ring ditch	1	10	G	short out-turned neck and plain rounded rim	ESW	LIA	burnt; same vessel as (1903) [1901]
0025	0029	3	8	FFQ	none	?PDR	?LBA	none
		1	2	CF	none	DR	MBA	burnt. Associated with later pottery
0031	N/A	4	43	daub	none	none	ND	broken from single piece
0214	0215	0	2	F	none	unknown	prehist	too small to date
0314	0317	1	2	G	none	ESW	LIA/RB	burnt
		2	4	SCF	none	DR/PDR	MBA or LBA	burnt
0367	N/A	1	3	MF	none	DR	MBA	very heavily weathered
0573	0572	1	4	G	none	ESW	LIA/RB	none
0687	0688	1	3	MF	none	DR	MBA	none
0905	0904	4	6	Q	none	E-RB sandy ware	E-RB	none
0920	0913	0	1	F	none	unknown	prehist	burnt; too small to date
0954	0953	1	4	G	out-turned neck and plain rounded rim	ESW	LIA/E-RB	burnt
0956	0955	2	3	G	none	ESW	LIA/RB	burnt
0970		4	3	F	none	unknown	prehist	too small to date
0972	0971	1	5	FMF	none	DR	MBA	none
1077	1094	1	5	SFF	none	DR	MBA	none
1137	1131	1	1	F	none	?DR	?MBA	too small to date with confidence
1359	1360	5	115	VCF	thick	DR	MBA	burnt post breakage
		3	12	MCF	none	DR	MBA	burnt post breakage
1418	1421	1	1	F	none	?DR	?MBA	too small to date with confidence
1750	1749	1	5	FMF	none	PDR	LBA	none
1761	1759	1	1	U	none	unknown	ND	too small to date
1762		1	1	U	none	unknown	ND	too small to date
1764		3	2	FMF	none	?DR	?MBA	burnt; too small to date with confidence
1826	1803	4	3	G	none	ESW	LIA/RB	burnt
1878	1879	1	3	MF	none	?PDR	?LBA	none
1884	1885	1	3	G	none	ESW	LIA/RB	burnt

Fill	Cut/ locus	No of sherds	Weight in grams	Fabrics	Other diagnostics	Pottery tradition	Spot date	Comments
1903	1901	43	615	G	round shouldered jar with short out-turned neck, plain rounded rim and pedestal base. Decorated around the middle and the lower shoulder with three fingertip impressed cordons and with possible cross-hatching below	ESW	LIA/E-RB	burnt. same vessel as on surface of ring ditch. LIA rather than E-RB (cf. Green 1980, fig. 27.7)
1946	1945	4	108	G	omphalos base	ESW	LIA/E-RB	burnt; freshly broken from single sherd
1947	1929	1	2	CG	none	?DR	?MBA	very likely the same fabric as SCFG in (2440) but too small to date with confidence
		1	1	SFF	none	DR/PDR	MBA or LBA	burnt; too small to date with confidence
1948	1930	2	2	CF	none	?DR	?MBA	too small to date with confidence
1952	1953	4	8	CF	none	?DR	?MBA	too small to date with confidence
		2	6	MF	thin	PDR	LBA	none
1988	1986	1	5	MCF	none	DR	MBA	none
2051	2053	1	2	G	none	ESW	LIA/RB	none
2169	2170	1	4	MCF	none	DR	MBA	none
2232	2231	1	1	F	none	unknown	prehist	too small to date
2246	2245	1	110	CF	thick	DR	MBA	none
2320	2321	1	4	G	none	ESW	LIA/RB	burnt
2324	2322	0	1	F	none	unknown	prehist	too small to date
N/A	2368	2	12	MCF	none	DR	MBA	burnt post breakage
2440	2442	2	14	SCFG	thick	DR	MBA	none
2471	2472	2	35	DMF	thick	DR	MBA	burnt post breakage
		1	11	MCF	none	DR	MBA	burnt post breakage
2476	2475	8	205	CF	1 thick sherd	DR	MBA	3 sherds burnt post breakage
		2	15	VCF	thick	DR	MBA	none
2485	2483	1	7	SMF	very thin	PDR	LBA	none

Fill	Cut/ locus	No of sherds	Weight in grams	Fabrics	Other diagnostics	Pottery tradition	Spot date	Comments
2508	2510	4	60	DMF	none	DR	MBA	burnt post breakage; same as DMF in (2471)
2517	2516	1	10	MF	roughly squared rim of straight-sided jar. Thin	DR	MBA	none
2519	2524	1	25	G	none	ESW	LIA/RB	associated with MEDIEVAL assemblage
2528	2529	4	30	MCF	rounded rim of straight sided jar	DR	MBA	burnt post breakage
2553	2552	1	18	CF	none	DR	MBA	none
		6	14	FMF	thin	DR	MBA	probably from a fine wear jar
2631	2525	1	3	GF	none	unknown	prehist.	none
2658	2660	1	1	F	none	unknown	prehist.	too small to date
2661	2662	1	2	FMF	thin	DR	MBA	none
2688	2687	1	2	G	none	ESW	LIA/RB	burnt
6005	6004	8	8	U	none	unknown	?LIA	none; associated with Roman pottery
6005	6004	3	15	East Gaulish samian	decorated		2nd-century AD	decoration worn off
6907	6906	5	7	SMFG	thin	DR	MBA	none
		2	20	MCF	thick	DR/PDR	MBA or LBA	none

Key
Fabrics (in order of appearance in table): CF = coarse flint tempered fabric (here occasionally glauconitic); G = grog tempered fabric (East Sussex Ware); FFQ sandy fine flint tempered fabric; F = flint tempered fabric (not divisible to grade owing to the small size of the sherds so categorized); SCF = sparsely coarse flint tempered fabric; MF = medium flint tempered fabric; Q = Romano-British sandy ware; FMF = fine to medium flint tempered fabric; SFF = sparsely fine flint tempered fabric; VCF = very coarse flint tempered fabric; MCF = medium to coarse flint tempered fabric (here often glauconitic); U = untempered fabric; CG = coarse grog tempered fabric; SCFG = sparse coarse flint and coarse grog tempered fabric; DMF = dense medium flint tempered fabric; SMFG = sparse medium flint and grog tempered fabric
Traditions: DR = Deverel-Rimbury; ESW = East Sussex Ware/ Eastern Atrebatic; PDR = post Deverel-Rimbury

Assessment of the struck flint assemblage from Stone Cross, Pevensey (PEV-EX-16)

Material discussed: struck flint
Report type: assessment
Report commissioned by: SWAT Archaeology
Date of report: August 2017

The excavations at Stone Cross, Pevensey, yielded 38 pieces of struck flint. Two broad technologies and period groups are distinguishable, though, owing to the poor quality of the recovered pieces, not every one is assignable to one or other and this gives a false impression of an overlap between the two groups (Tab. 18). The earlier group comprises blades, blade debitage and a single core tool fashioned from a blade core. It should belong to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic, or Mesolithic and Early Neolithic periods. The later comprises rough flakes, of a type present in early assemblages, but also associated with the Middle and Late Bronze Age and increasingly the Early Iron Age. No later pieces were associated with Bronze Age pottery, one unassigned piece was associated with Bronze Age pottery, and eight assigned pieces were associated with later (LIA/E-RB and medieval) pottery. Of note are the distribution of modified or utilized pieces between the two technological/ period groups (four out of 19 of the early pieces compared to 5 out of 9 of the later pieces) and the use by both technologies of secondary flint sources. Both of these observations have implications for our understanding of resource procurement and tool production on site during the periods represented. Owing to the small size of the assemblage and the mixing of the two period groups within it, it has no interpretative potential beyond this note.

Fill/ deposit	Cut/ locus	SF no	Flint type	Qty	Strike	Type	Core prepa-ration	Retouch	Visible use wear	Associated pottery	Spot date
0001	area 3.3		G	1	HH	utilized flake tool	yes	acute retouch on one edge	Two scraping notches on retouched edge; possible scraper damage on opposite edge	none	later BA
			GC	1	HH	utilized flake tool	U	blunted on curve of long edge	Scraping notch above retouch	none	ND
0002	area 3.3	SF 03	WR	1	HH	flake/ flake debitage	U	no	U	none	ND
			GC	1	HH	utilized (thick) flake	U	no	Two scraping notches on opposing edges	none	later BA
		SF 02	G	1	HH	core rejuvenation flake/ flake debitage	yes	no	U	none	ND
		SF 01	GC	1	HH	rough core tool/ blade core	U	no	no	none	Meso/ E Neo
0116	0117		B	1	SH/PS	core rejuvenation flake/ blade debitage	U	no	Saw damage	none	Meso
0247	0248		GC	1	HH	utilized flake	U	no	Scraper damage on prominent edge	none	ND
			G	1	PS	utilized blade	yes	no	Scraper damage (from both sides) on one long edge	none	Meso/ E Neo
			GC	1	U	rough blade/ deb-itage	U	no	no	none	ND
0314	0317		G	1	HH	utilized flake	no	no	Scraper damage on one long edge	ESW	later BA
0578	0581		B	1	U	thick broken flake tool	U	blunted on surviving long edge	no	none	ND

Table 18

Struck flint from Stone Cross, Pevensey, PEV-EX-16

Fill/ deposit	Cut/ locus	SF no	Flint type	Qty	Strike	Type	Core prepa-ration	Retouch	Visible use wear	Associated pottery	Spot date
0628	629		GC	1	HH	utilized blade	no	no	Scraper damage on one long edge	Medieval	later BA
1762	1759		DGC	1	SH	utilized small blade	yes	no	Possible saw damage on one long edge	?DR/PDR	Meso
			W	2	U	rough flakes/ deb-itage	U	no	no		ND
1765			GC	1	HH	utilized flake/ possi-ble blade debitage	yes	no	Saw damage on one long edge; scraper damage on distal end		Meso/ E Neo
			DGC	1	U	chunk/ debitage	U	no	U		ND
1770	1769		BC	1	HH	core rejuvenation flake from possible blade core	yes	blunted edge adjacent to striking plat-form	U	none	Meso
1804	1805		BC	12	PS	rough flakes and blades/ debitage	yes	no	no	none	Meso
1826	1803		BC	1	HH	utilized flake	no	no	Scraper damage on short edge	ESW	ND
			GC	1	HH	utilized flake/ blade	U	no	Scraper damage on one long edge		later BA
			G	2	HH	flake/ debitage	no	no	no		later BA
1926	1927		G	2	HH	flake/ debitage	no	no	no	none	later BA
1931	1932		BR	1	PS	blade/ debitage	yes	no	no	none	Meso/ E Neo

Key
Flint type: G = mottled grey; GC = mottled grey with cortex; WR = water rolled; B = black; DG = dark grey with cortex; W = white; BR = brown
Strike and core preparation: HH = hard hammer; SH = soft hammer; PS = punch struck; U = not known

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